

BETH MEYERS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 9, 2015

CONTACT: Representative Beth Meyers 1-888-534-0074

Let's Acknowledge Our Lineworkers

April 13th is National Lineman Appreciation Day

On Monday, April 13th our state's electric cooperatives honor and acknowledge Wisconsin's Electric Lineworkers. These hardworking individuals help keep our lights on in rural areas and they are the ones who get the lights up and running during an outage.

While it is easy to take for granted how quickly we can turn on a light or push power for the television, it's much more complicated than that and the ease of turning on appliances can directly be attributed to our electric cooperatives lineworkers. One significant improvement that has helped tremendously in rural areas are maintenance programs. Whether it is clearing debris and vegetation or responding to an power outage during ice and wind storms, these men and women get the job done and they get it done fast.

Like many other high risk professions, we need to acknowledge these individuals because they put their lives on the line for us. Working on power lines is an extremely serious matter and can be dangerous if the correct safety measures and procedures are not carried out properly. Thankfully, as this profession has grown in our rural areas, lineworkers have been technically trained and have a rigorous safety standards and training protocol. These standards not only protect them and their co-workers, but helps the system run very smoothly for consumers as well. Lower accident and injury rates for linemen is crucial for an efficient energy supply and for the men and women who choose to work in such a dangerous line of work. We all want these lineworkers to work safely and return home each night to their families.

Please remember that next time you see one of your family members, neighbors, or colleagues who works for an electric cooperative in our community, especially the men and women who work as lineworkers tell them thank you for doing the great job that they do. They do their jobs well and they do their jobs safely. Furthermore, next time you flip a light switch don't forget that there is a lineworker out there who ensures you have light. Today, and every day of the year, please join me in saying thank you.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns regarding this or any issue of importance to you. I can be reached toll-free at: 1-888-534-0074 or via email at Rep.Meyers@legis.wisconsin.gov

###